SENATE
COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE



SÉNAT
DIRECTION DES COMITÉS

CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Monday, October 5, 2026
(26)

[*English*]

The Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights met this day at 4 p.m., in room B45, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable Paulette Senior, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Arnold, Arnot, Bernard, Karetak-Lindell, Robinson, Senior, Wells (*Alberta*) and Wells (*Newfoundland and Labrador*) (8).

Participating in the meeting: Robert Mason and Madalina Chesoi, Analysts, Library of Parliament; Chelsea DeFazio, Communications Officer, Communications, Broadcasting and Publications Directorate.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, the committee continued its consideration of Bill C-234, An Act respecting the establishment and award of a Living Donor Recognition Medal.

WITNESSES:

Transplant Québec:

Martine Bouchard, President and Chief Executive Officer.

Kidney Foundation of Canada:

Craig Lindsay, Director, Programs and Public Policy, Ontario *(by videoconference)*.

Héma-Québec:

Dr. Marc Germain, Vice-President, Medical Affairs and Innovation *(by videoconference)*;

Mélanie Dieudé, Director of Research Operations *(by videoconference)*.

Office of the Secretary to the Governor General:

Marc Thériault, Director General, Chancellery and Deputy Herald Chancellor.

As individuals:

Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Solomon Rolingher, A.O.E., C.D., K.C., Chair, Board of Trustees, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation;

Meghan Rozema, Two-time living organ donor *(by videoconference)*.

Martine Bouchard, Craig Lindsay, Dr. Marc Germain and Mélanie Dieudé each made a statement and answered questions.

At 4:59 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:05 p.m., the committee resumed.

Marc Thériault, Solomon Rolingher and Meghan Rozema each made a statement and answered questions.

At 5:47 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:53 p.m., pursuant to rule 12-16(1)(d), the committee resumed in camera to discuss a draft report.

It was agreed that the committee allow the audio recording of the in camera portion of today's meeting, that one copy be kept with the clerk of the committee for consultation by committee members or by the committee analysts, and that the audio recording be destroyed by the clerk when authorized to do so by the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, but no later than at the end of this parliamentary session.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, the committee continued its consideration of the subject matter of those elements contained in Division 10 of Part 4 of Bill C-31, A second Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025.

It was agreed that the draft report be adopted, and that the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure be empowered to approve the final version of the report, taking into consideration this meeting's discussions and with any necessary editorial, grammatical and translation changes required.

It was agreed that the chair be authorized to table the report in the Senate, or if the Senate is not then sitting, with the Clerk of the Senate, at the earliest opportunity, in both official languages.

At 6:19 p.m., pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, the committee continued its study on the health, safety, and wellbeing of 2SLGBTQI+ youth in Canada.

Pursuant to rule 12-16(1)(d), the committee discussed a draft budget report.

At 7:25 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Ericka Paajanen

Clerk of the Committee